

REMARKS

No claims are canceled, amended or added in this paper. Therefore, claims 1-49 are pending. Of these claims, claims 30-36 are non-elected claims, as explained further below. Accordingly, claims 1-29 and 37-49 are under active consideration.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Patent Office issued the following restriction requirement:

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-29 and 37-49, drawn to a method and apparatus for steering a beam of light using an acousto-optical deflector and a dispersing element and the use of the deflector and element in a laser scanning microscope, classified in class 356, subclass 318.

II. Claims 30-36, drawn to an apparatus for spectral dispersion of multi-chromatic light using a dispersing element and mirrors, classified in class 359, subclass 615.

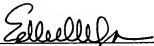
In response to the foregoing restriction requirement, Applicants respectfully elect Group I, claims 1-29 and 37-49.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper that are not accounted for, the Examiner is authorized to charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 11-1755. If a fee is

required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 that is not accounted for already, such an extension of time is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

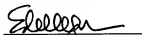
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 6, 2003.



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Dated: August 6, 2003